

**CLAIMS**

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of making a container carrier, comprising steps of:  
providing a handle sheet and a carrier sheet;  
positioning the handle sheet on at least a portion of the carrier sheet;  
connecting the handle sheet and the carrier sheet along a line of attachment;  
forming first and second rows of container receiving apertures in the carrier sheet on opposite sides of the line of attachment; and  
forming holes in the handle sheet simultaneously with forming the first row of apertures, the holes and the first row of apertures formed in substantially the same configurations.
2. The method of claim 1, said step of connecting performed by creating a substantially continuous weld between said sheets.
3. The method of claim 2, including connecting the handle sheet with the carrier sheet along first and second spaced lines of attachment; and removing a portion of the handle sheet between the first and second spaced lines of attachment.
4. The method of claim 3, including forming the first row of apertures between one of the lines of attachment and an edge of the carrier sheet, forming the second row of apertures between the lines of attachment; and  
forming a third row of apertures in the carrier sheet on an opposite side of the other of the lines of attachment from the second row of apertures.

5. The method of claim 4, including forming holes in the handle sheet simultaneously with forming the third row of apertures.

6. The method of claim 5, including forming first and second handles in said handle sheet outwardly of the holes with respect to said first and second lines of attachment.

7. The method of claim 6, including forming a merchandising panel simultaneously with forming at least one of the first and second handles.

8. A method of making a container carrier, comprising steps of:  
providing a handle sheet and a carrier sheet;  
positioning the handle sheet against the carrier sheet;  
connecting the handle sheet and the carrier sheet along spaced first and second lines of attachment;

removing a strip of the handle sheet between the lines of attachment, leaving a first handle portion outwardly from the first line of attachment and a second handle portion outwardly from the second line of attachment;

forming a first row of container receiving apertures in the carrier sheet outwardly from the first line of attachment and simultaneously forming holes in the first handle portion similarly shaped to the first row of apertures;

forming a second row of apertures in the carrier sheet between the first and second lines of attachment; and

forming a third row of container receiving apertures in the carrier sheet outwardly from the second line of attachment and simultaneously forming holes in the second handle portion similarly shaped to the third row of apertures.

9. The method of claim 8, said forming steps performed by die cutting.

10. The method of claim 8, including providing the handle sheet wider than the carrier sheet, positioning the sheets with first and second margin portions of the handle sheet extending beyond the carrier sheet on opposite sides, and forming handles in the margin portions of the handle sheet outwardly of the carrier sheet.

11. The method of claim 10, said forming steps performed by die cutting.

12. The method of claim 8, including forming a handle in the handle sheet and simultaneously forming a merchandising panel in the carrier sheet configured substantially the same as the handle.

13. The method of claim 8, including providing the handle sheet of material different from the material of the carrier sheet.

14. A container carrier comprising:

a carrier sheet having first and second elongated side edges and first and second ends;

first and second rows of apertures in said carrier sheet configured for holding individual containers, said apertures in each said row substantially aligned with each other between said first and second ends;

a first handle portion secured to said carrier sheet along a line of attachment between said first and second rows of apertures, said first handle portion including a suspension portion and a handle, said suspension portion including holes therein substantially the same as said apertures of said first row.

15. The container carrier of claim 14, including a third row of apertures in said carrier sheet, said apertures of said third row substantially aligned with each other between said first and second ends; and

a second handle portion secured to said carrier sheet along a line of attachment between said second and third rows of apertures, said second handle portion including a suspension portion and a handle, said suspension portion of said second handle portion including holes therein substantially the same as said apertures in said third row.

16. The container carrier of claim 15, said lines of attachment being substantially continuous welds from said first end to said second end.

17. The container carrier of claim 14, at least one said side edge defining an outwardly extending enlarged panel along one said row of apertures.

18. The container carrier of claim 14, said carrier sheet having perforations therein defining tear lines for rupturing said apertures.

19. The container carrier of claim 14, said line of attachment being a substantially continuous weld from one end of said sheets to the other end of said sheets.